

INDIGENOUS CATTLE BREEDS OF INDIA

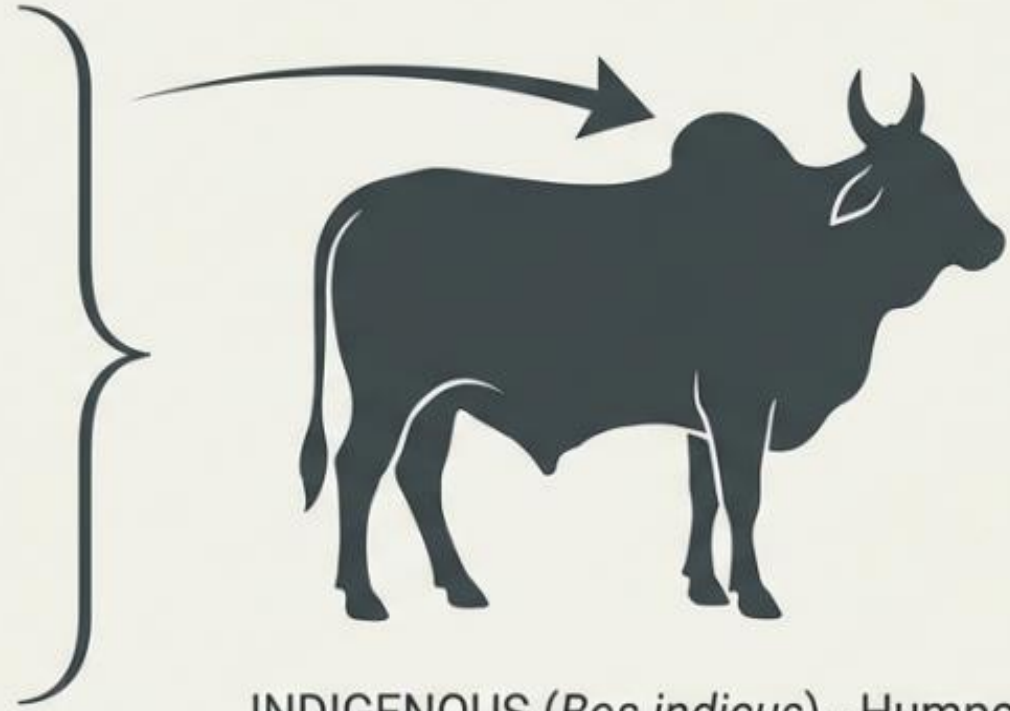
Identification and Functional
Classification (LPM)



THE INDIGENOUS ADVANTAGE: BOS INDICUS



EXOTIC (*Bos taurus*) - Humpless



INDIGENOUS (*Bos indicus*) - Humped

The signature 'Hump' (Zebu) is a key evolutionary adaptation for heat resilience.

Table 16: Indian cattle breeds

S.N.	Milch breeds	Dual purpose breeds	Draught breeds
1.	Gir	Haryana	Amritmahal
2.	Sahiwal	Nari	Nagori
3.	Red Sindhi	Kankrej	Khillari
4.	Tharparkar	Mewati	Malvi
5.	Rathi	Dangi	Bachaur
6.		Deoni	Bargur
7.		Nimari	Siri
8.		Ongole	Ponwar
9.			Hallikar
10.			Kangayam

Table 17: Description of milch breeds

S.N.	Breed	Other names	Origin & Distribution	Characters
1.	Gir	Kathiawarhi, Surati, Bhodali	Gir forest (Guj.)	Longest lactation period among desi breeds (325 days), Best beef breed, Half moon shape horn, Long, pendulous leaf like ears.
2.	Sahiwal	Lola, Multani, Lambi-bar, Montgomery	Montgomery (Pakistan), Punjab, Haryana	Best Indian milch breed, Loose skin (Lola), Well developed dewlap and naval flap
3.	Red-Sindhi	Red-Karachi	Karachi, Hyderabad (Sindh)	
4.	Tharparkar	Malani, White-Sindhi, Thari, Grey Sindhi	Tharparkar (Pakistan), Malani (Jaisalmer, Rajasthan)	Highest disease resistant, Colour change property
5.	Rathi		Alwar, Bikaner (Rajasthan)	It is a mixture of Red Sindhi, Sahiwal, Tharparkar & Dhanni

Table 18: Description of dual- purpose breeds

S.N.	Breed	Origin & Distribution	Mixture	Characters
1.	Hariana	Rohtak, Hisar (Haryana)		Best dual purpose breed
2.	Kankrej	Kutch ka Rann (Guj.)		Heaviest Indian Cattle breed, Famous gait "Sawai-Chal"
3.	Mewati (Kosi)	Alwar, Bharatpur (Rajasthan)	Gir, Rathi & Nagori	
4.	Dangi	Maharashtra, Gujarat		
5.	Nimari	Narmada Valley (MP)	Gir, Khillari	
6.	Ongole	Ongole (AP)		Cattle with pure white colour
7.	Deoni	Hyderabad (Telangana)	Gir, Dangi & local animal	
8.	Nari	Pali, Sirohi (Rajasthan); Banas Kantha, Sabar Kantha (Gujarat)		Spirally outward/forward curved horns

Table 19: Description of draught- purpose breeds

S.N.	Breed	Origin	Characters
1.	Amritmahal	Karnataka	Best draught- purpose breed of India; Famous for power of endurance
2.	Nagori	Rajasthan	Best draught- purpose breed of Rajasthan
3.	Khillari	Maharashtra	Best draught- purpose breed of Maharashtra
4.	Vechur	Kottayam (Kerala)	Smallest cattle breed in the World
5.	Bachaur	Sitamari (Bihar)	Best draught- purpose breed of Bihar
6.	Siri	Sikkim, Darjeeling	
7.	Ponwar	Pilibhit (UP)	
8.	Kangayam	Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)	Pride of Tamil Nadu
9.	Bargur	Tamil Nadu	
10.	Malvi	Malva (MP)	
11.	Hallikar	Karnataka	
12.	Badri	Uttarakhand	Also known as pahadi cow or hill cow

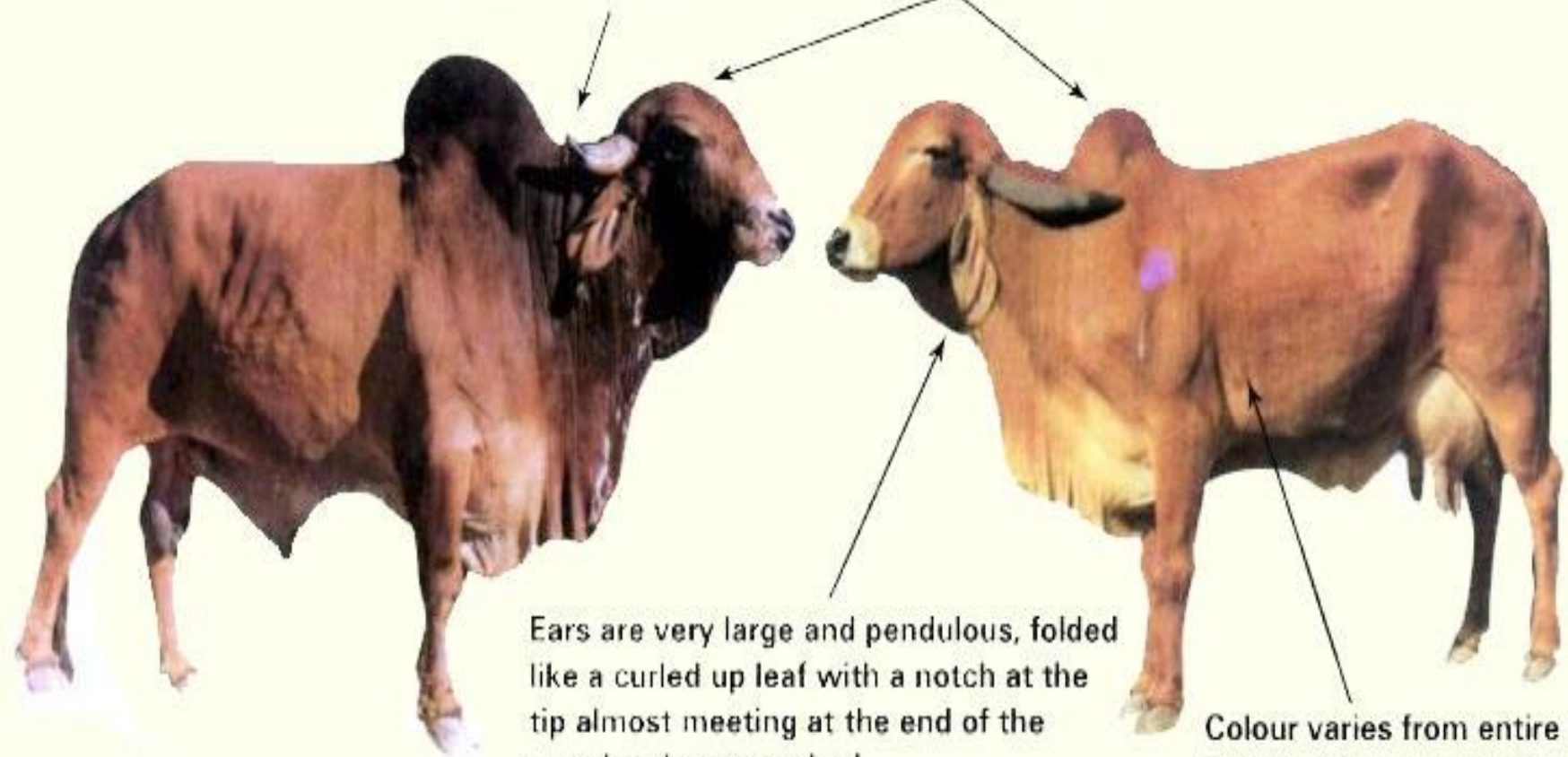
- **Hilly breeds of cattle:** - Siri, Ponwar & Badri
- **Pulikulam** breed of Tami Nadu is used for **Jallikattu** (riding event) on the day of Pongal festival

Milch breeds

GIR

Curved horns turning back at the tips.

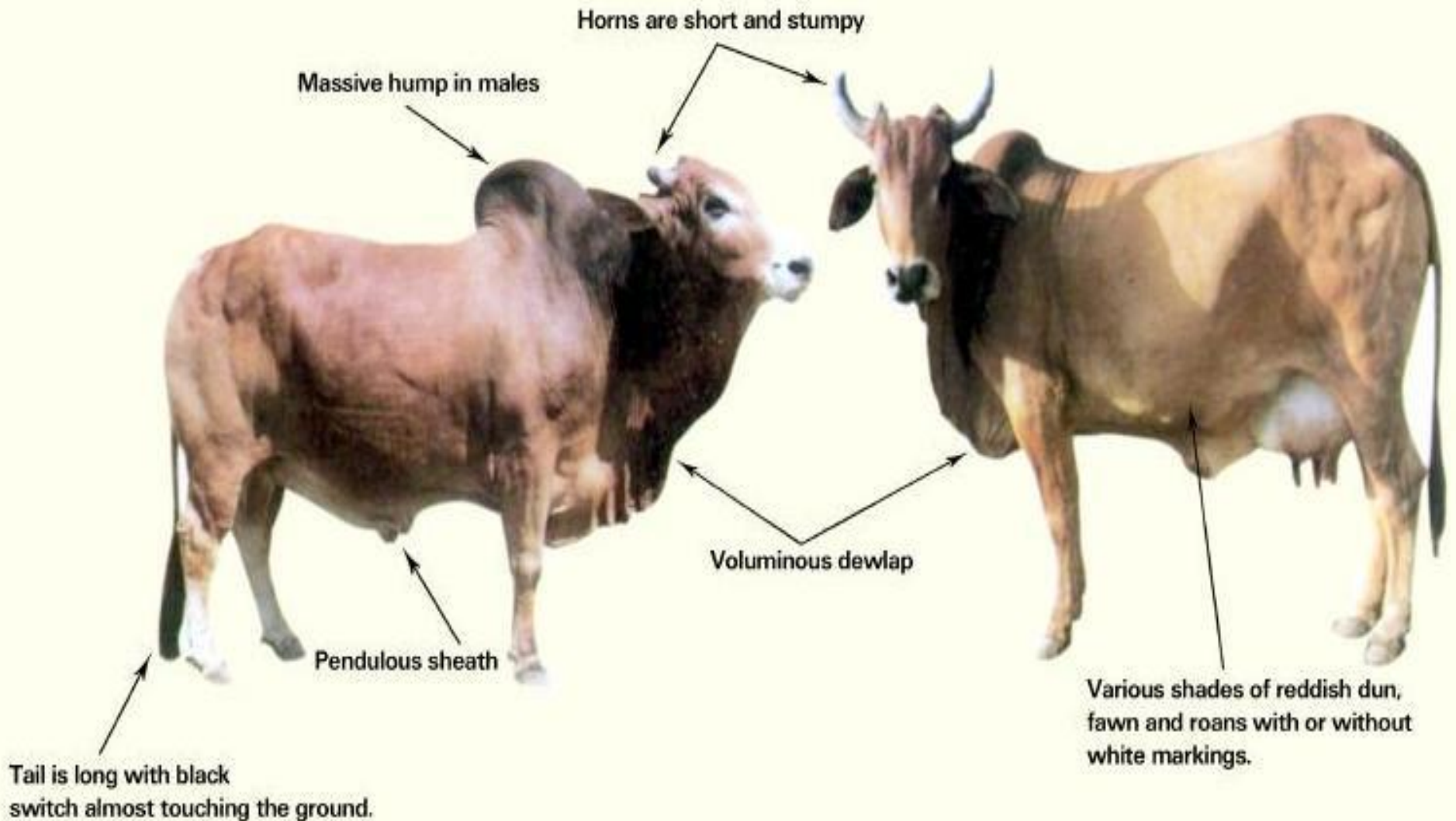
Proturding broad and long fore head



Ears are very large and pendulous, folded like a curled up leaf with a notch at the tip almost meeting at the end of the muzzle when stretched.

Colour varies from entire red with light patches to a mottled white and red or chocolate brown

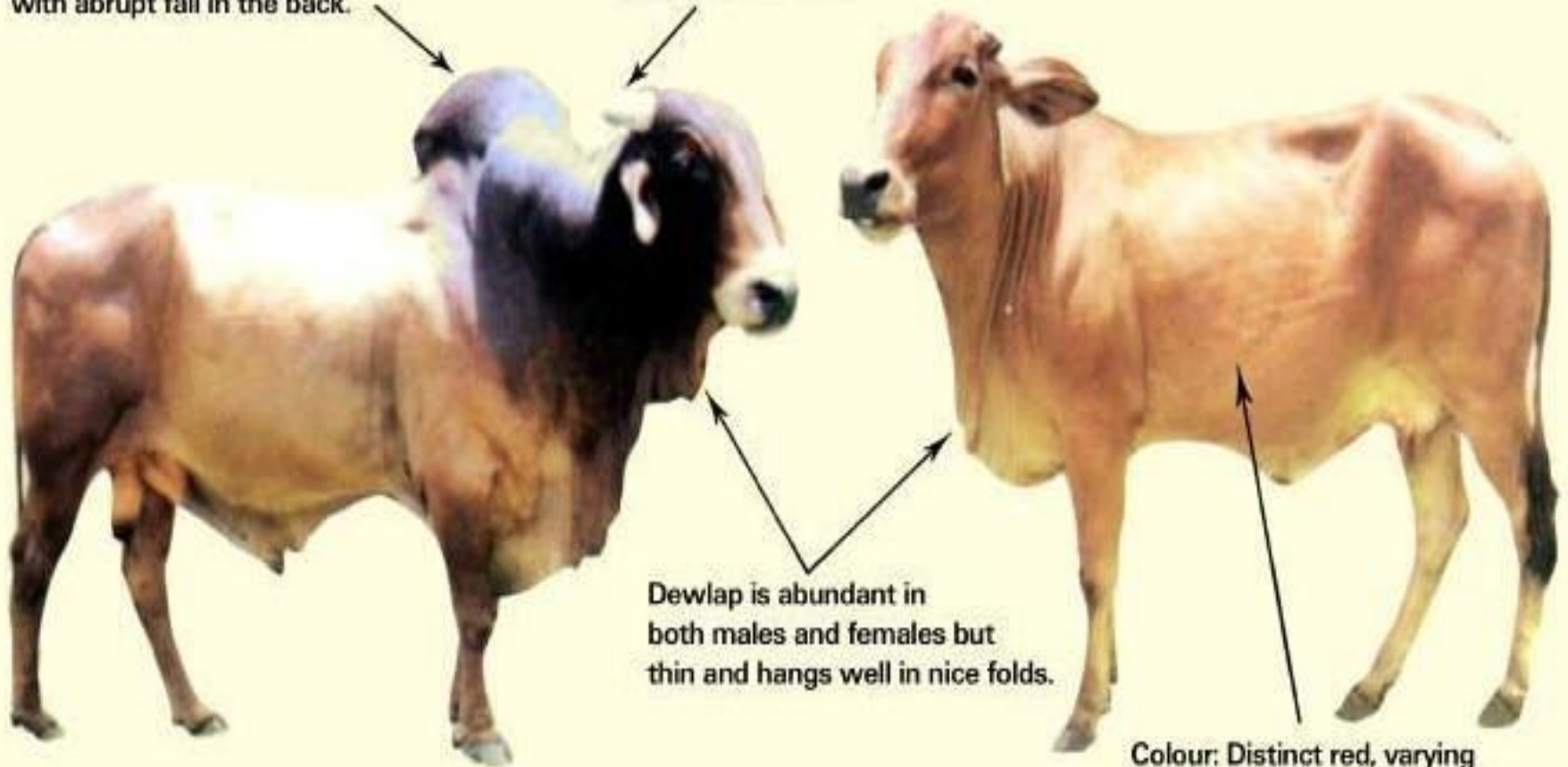
SAHIWAL



RED SINDHI

Hump is well developed in bull, sloping gradually forward but with abrupt fall in the back.

Horns are thick at the base and emerge laterally and curve upward.



Dewlap is abundant in both males and females but thin and hangs well in nice folds.

Colour: Distinct red, varying from dim yellow to dark red.

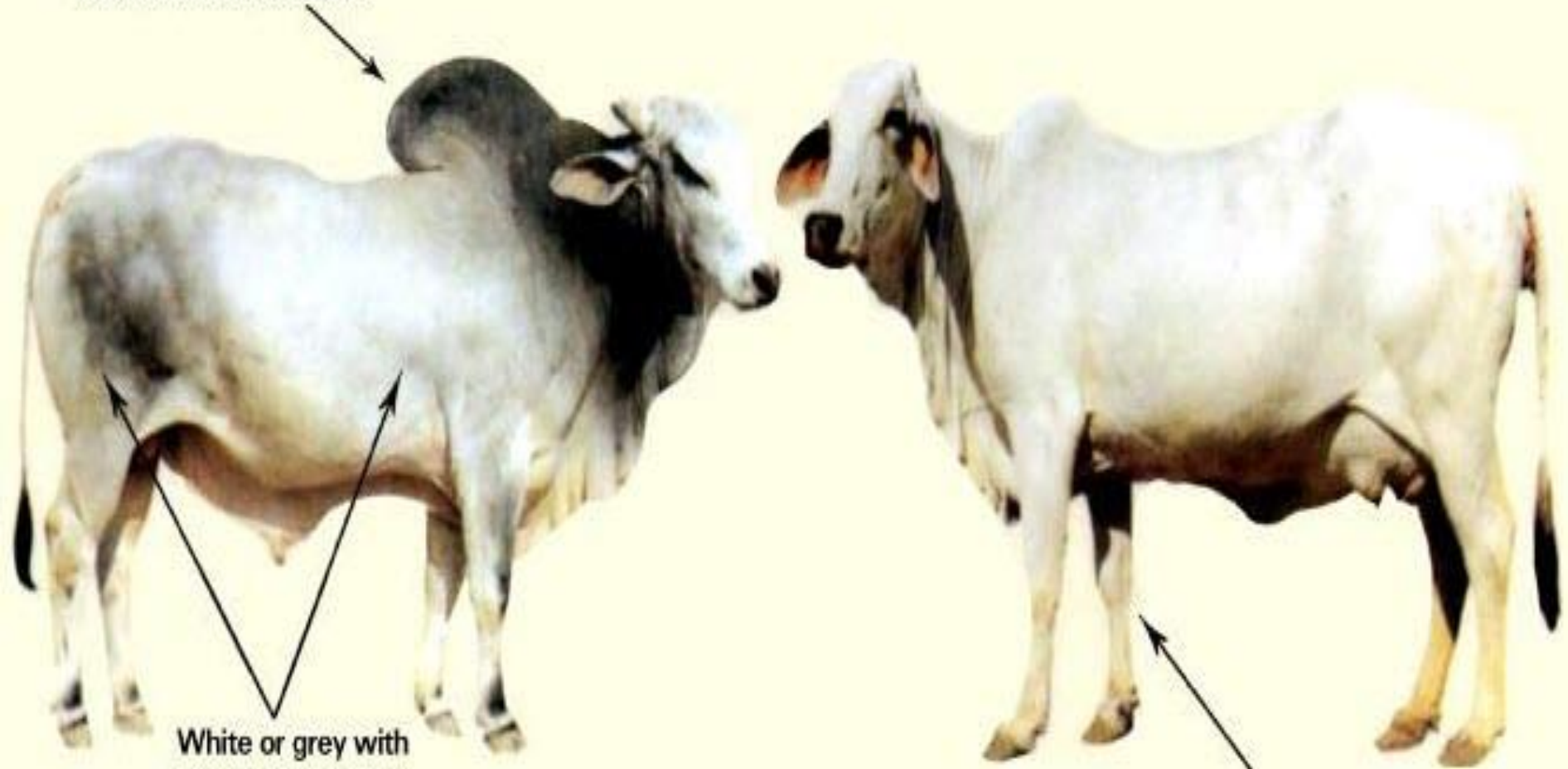
DEONI



Milch and draught breed (Dual Breed)

THARPARKAR

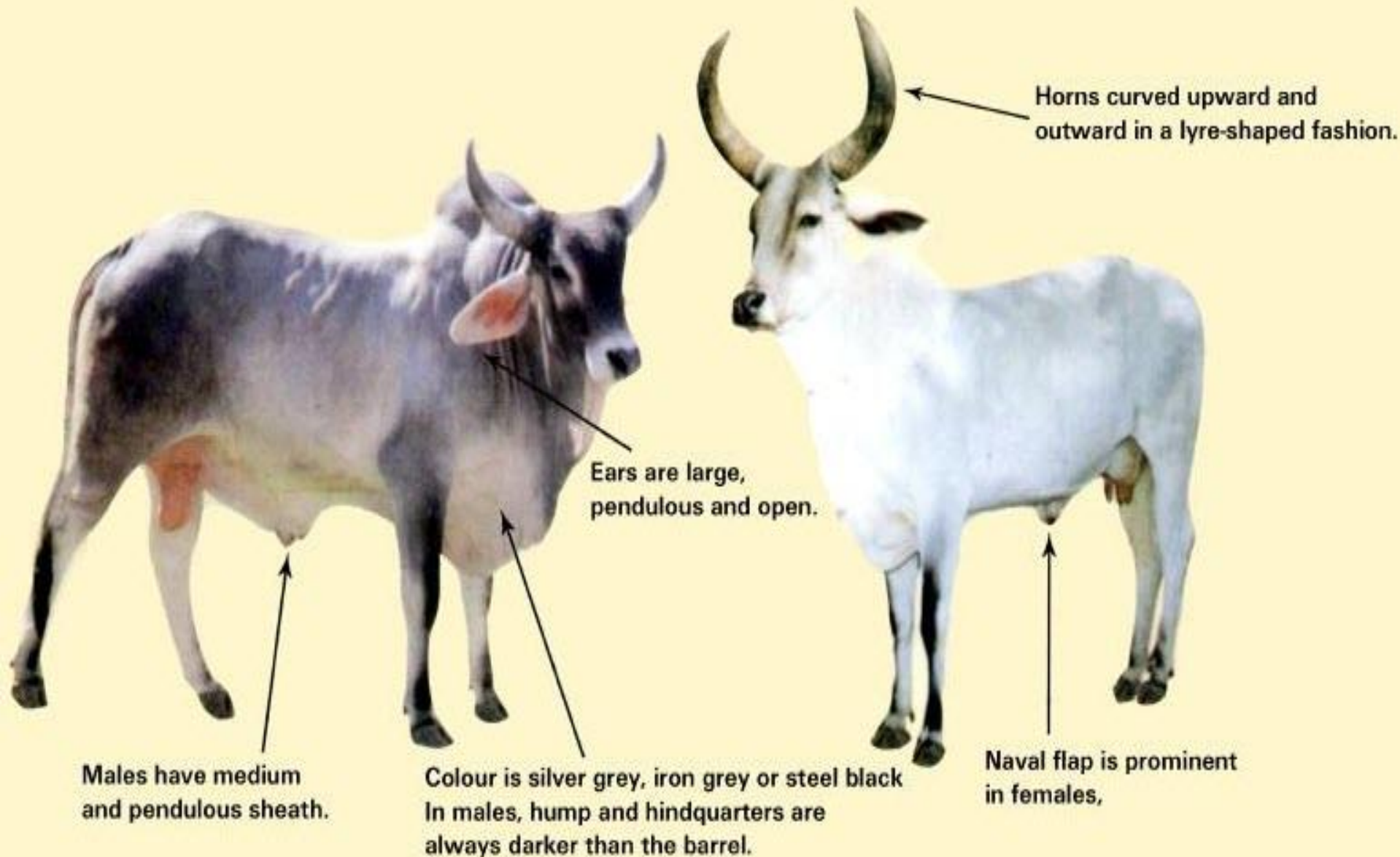
Massive hump in males



White or grey with darker extremities.

Legs comparatively short and straight.

KANKREJ



HARIANA

Long and narrow face with flat forehead and a well marked bony prominence at the centre of the poll.

Horns are short and horizontal.



Sheath is short and tight and naval flap is absent in bulls.

Colour is white and light grey.

Nimari



Gaolao



ONGOLE

Hump is well developed and erect.

Prominent forehead

Short horns



Dewlap is large, fleshy and hanging in folds extending to the naval flap.

Popular coat colour is (glossy) white some times grey at extremities.

Other Dual Purpose breeds

- Dangi : Nasik
- Mewati (Kosi) : Alwar Bharatpur, Similar to Haryana.
- Rathi alwar and rajputana region of Rajasthan

Draught breeds

Kenkatha



Malvi



AMRITMAHAL

Hump is well developed and is carried slightly forward.

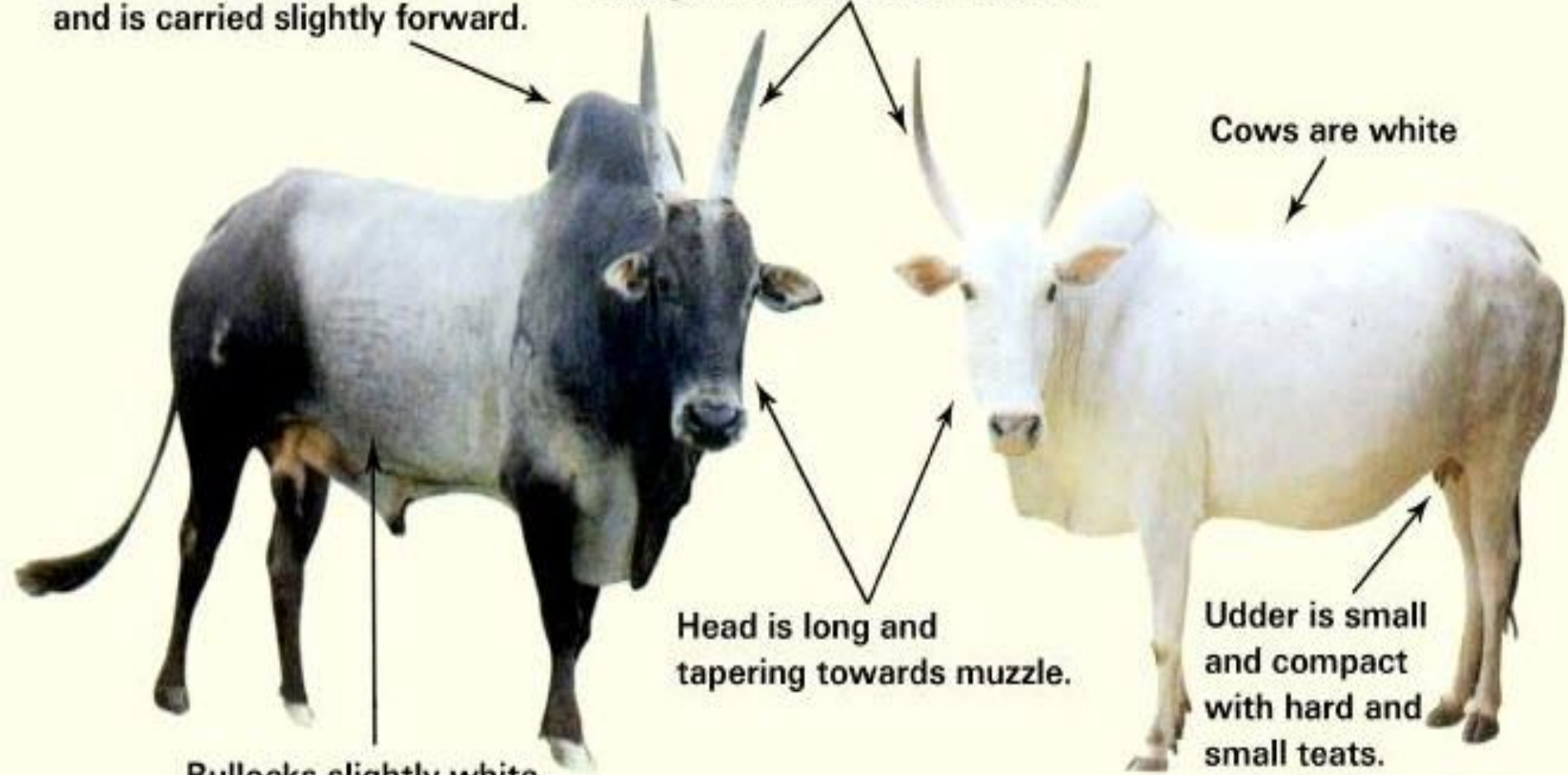
Horns are long and emerge from the top of the poll.

Cows are white

Head is long and tapering towards muzzle.

Udder is small and compact with hard and small teats.

Bullocks slightly white and bulls dark, rusty and even interlace to some extent.



HALLIKAR

Horns emerge near each other from the top of the poll, carried backward, each in a straight-line for nearly half their length, and with a gentle and graceful sweep, bend forward and slightly inward toward the tips. Horns touch the neck almost in front of hump.

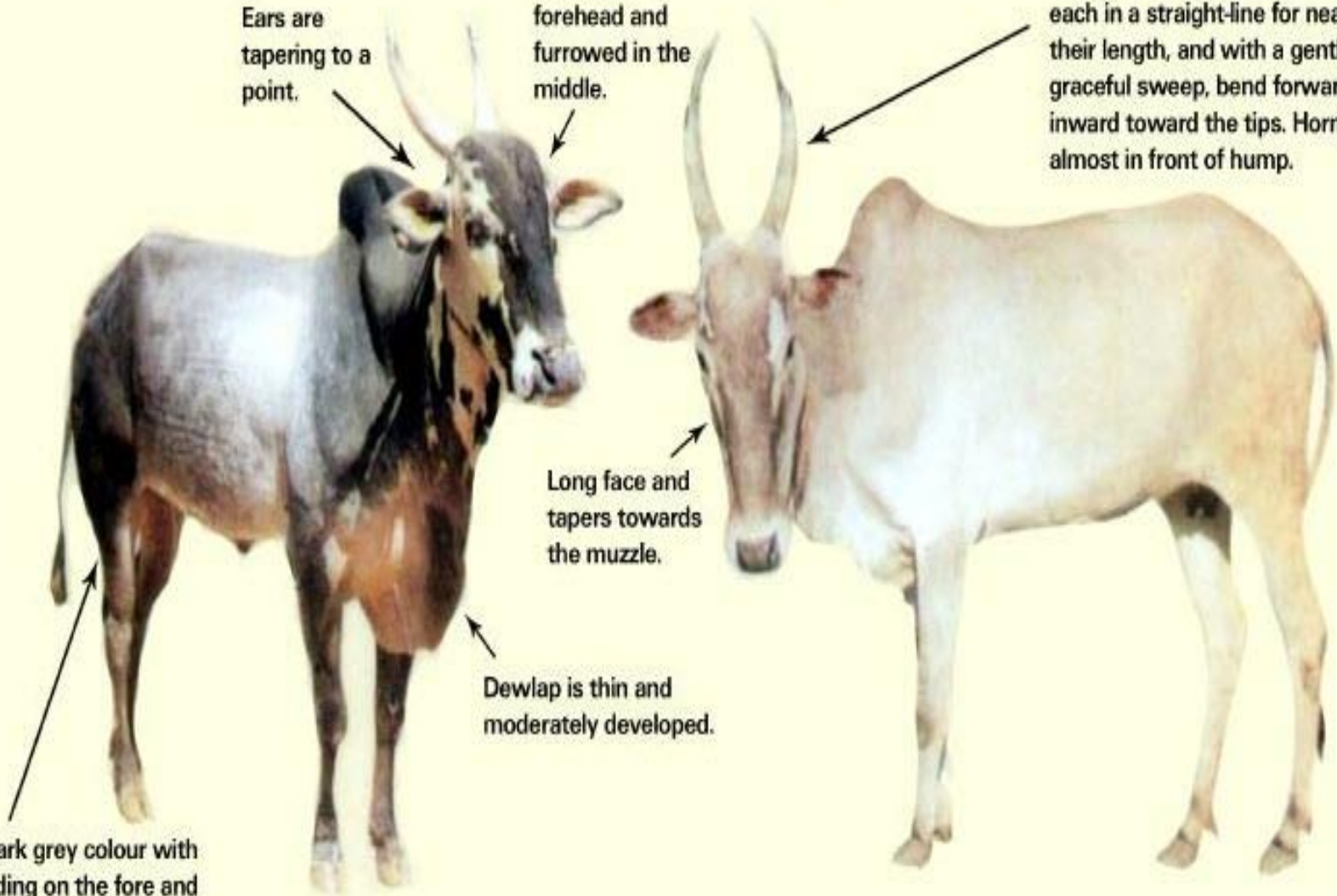
Ears are tapering to a point.

Prominent forehead and furrowed in the middle.

Long face and tapers towards the muzzle.

Dewlap is thin and moderately developed.

Grey to dark grey colour with deep shading on the fore and hind quarters. Frequently light grey marks on the face, dewlap and under the body.

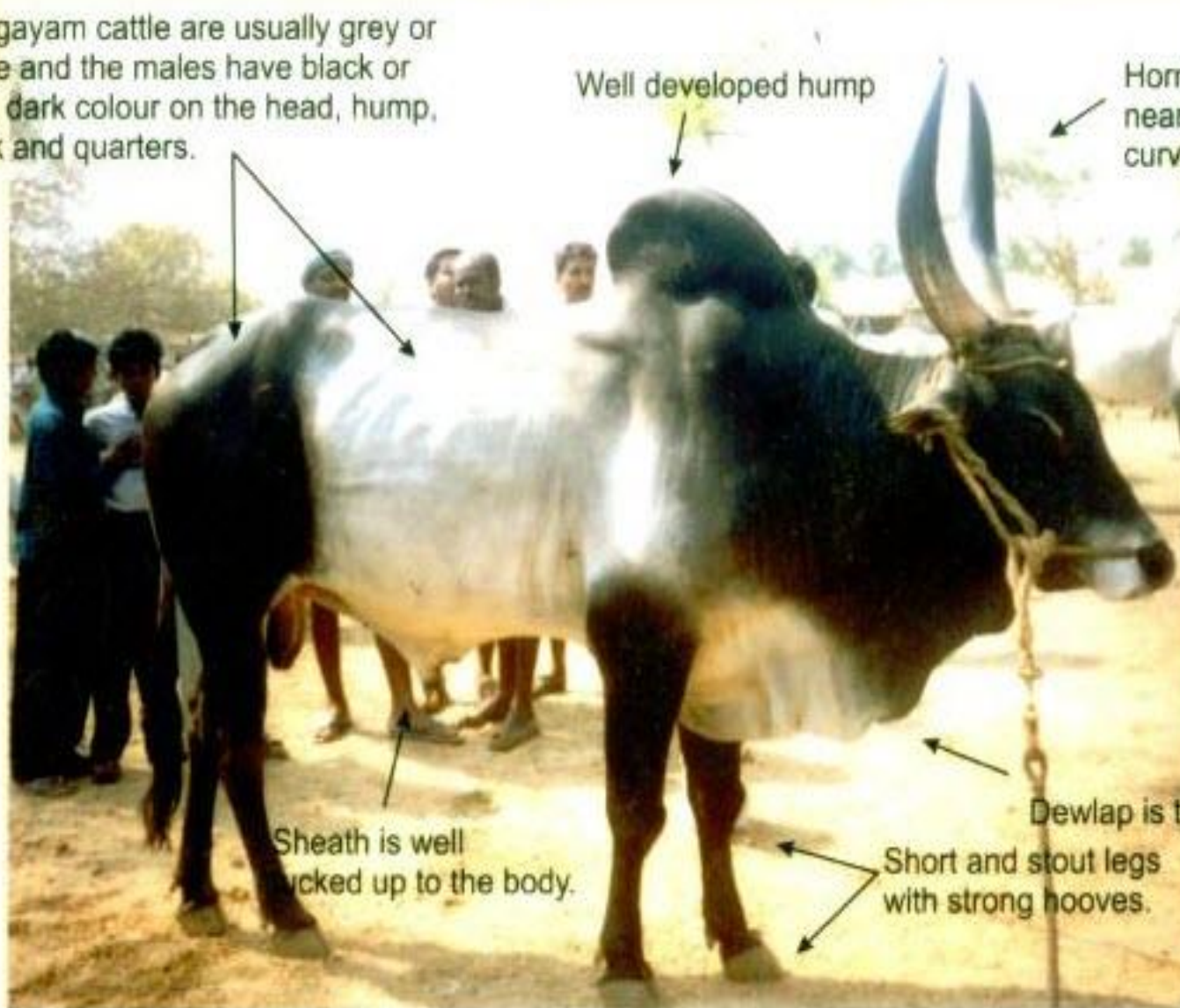


KANGAYAM

Kangayam cattle are usually grey or white and the males have black or very dark colour on the head, hump, neck and quarters.

Well developed hump

Horns are spread apart, nearly straight with a slight curve backwards.



Sheath is well tucked up to the body.

Dewlap is thin.

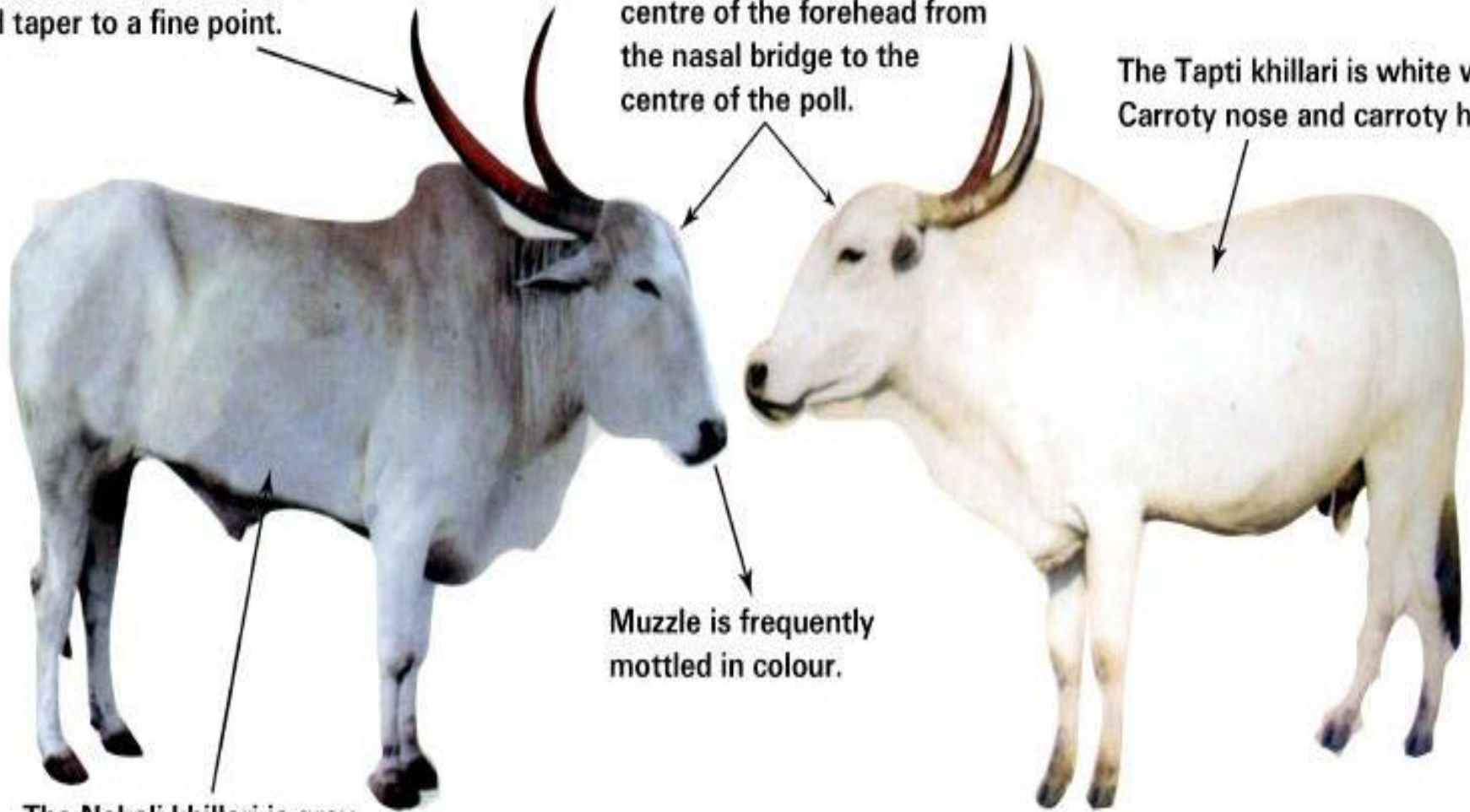
Short and stout legs with strong hooves.

KHILLARI

The horns are thick at the base and taper to a fine point.

A distinct groove runs in the centre of the forehead from the nasal bridge to the centre of the poll.

The Tapti khillari is white with Carroty nose and carroty hooves.



Muzzle is frequently mottled in colour.

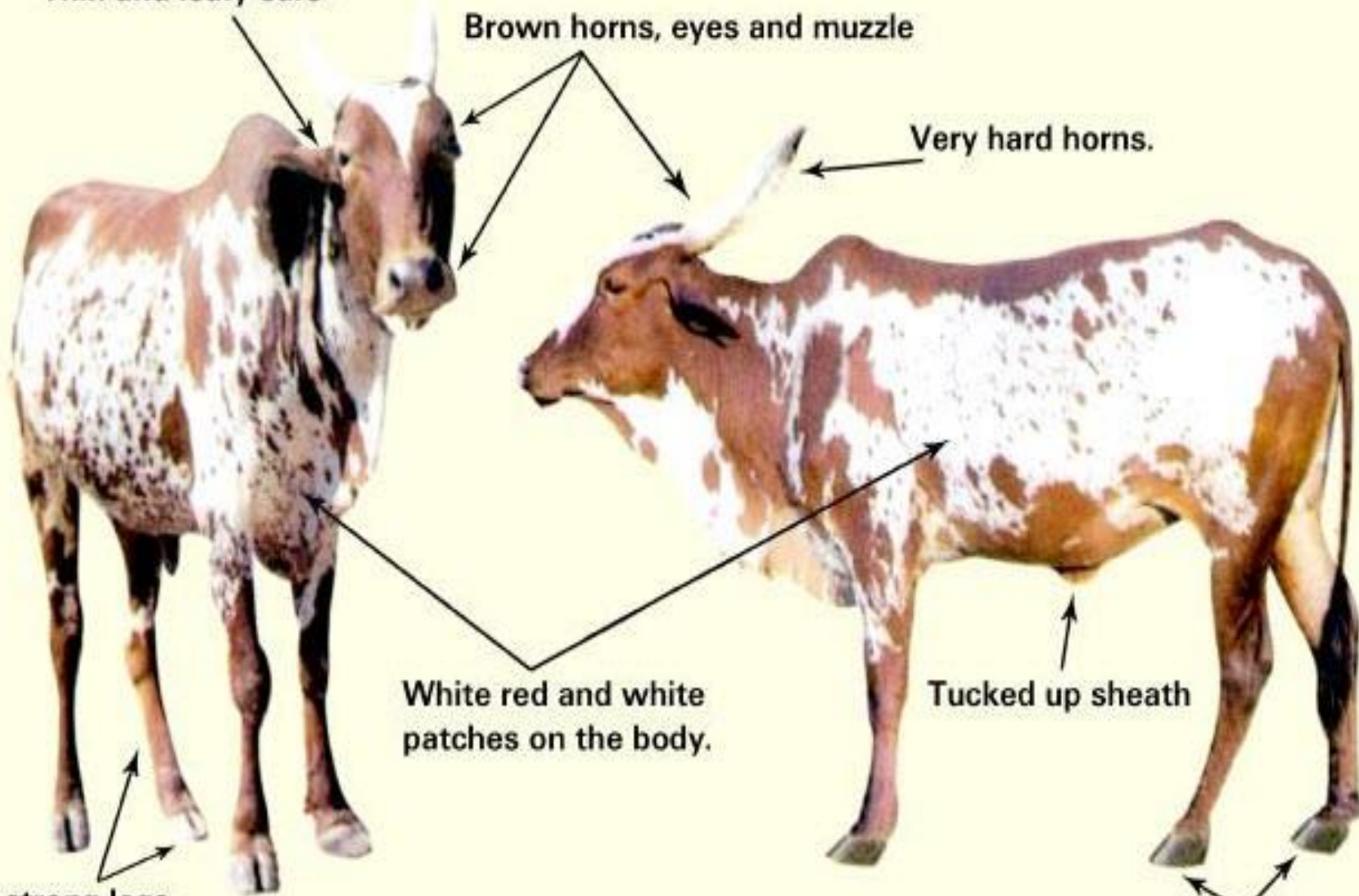
The Nakali khillari is grey with tawny or brick dust colour over the forequarters.

BARGUR

Thin and leafy ears

Brown horns, eyes and muzzle

Very hard horns.



White red and white patches on the body.

Tucked up sheath

Short and strong legs.

Brown hooves.

VECHUR

Hump is prominent in males.

Smaller in size, compact body and head is long with narrow face.

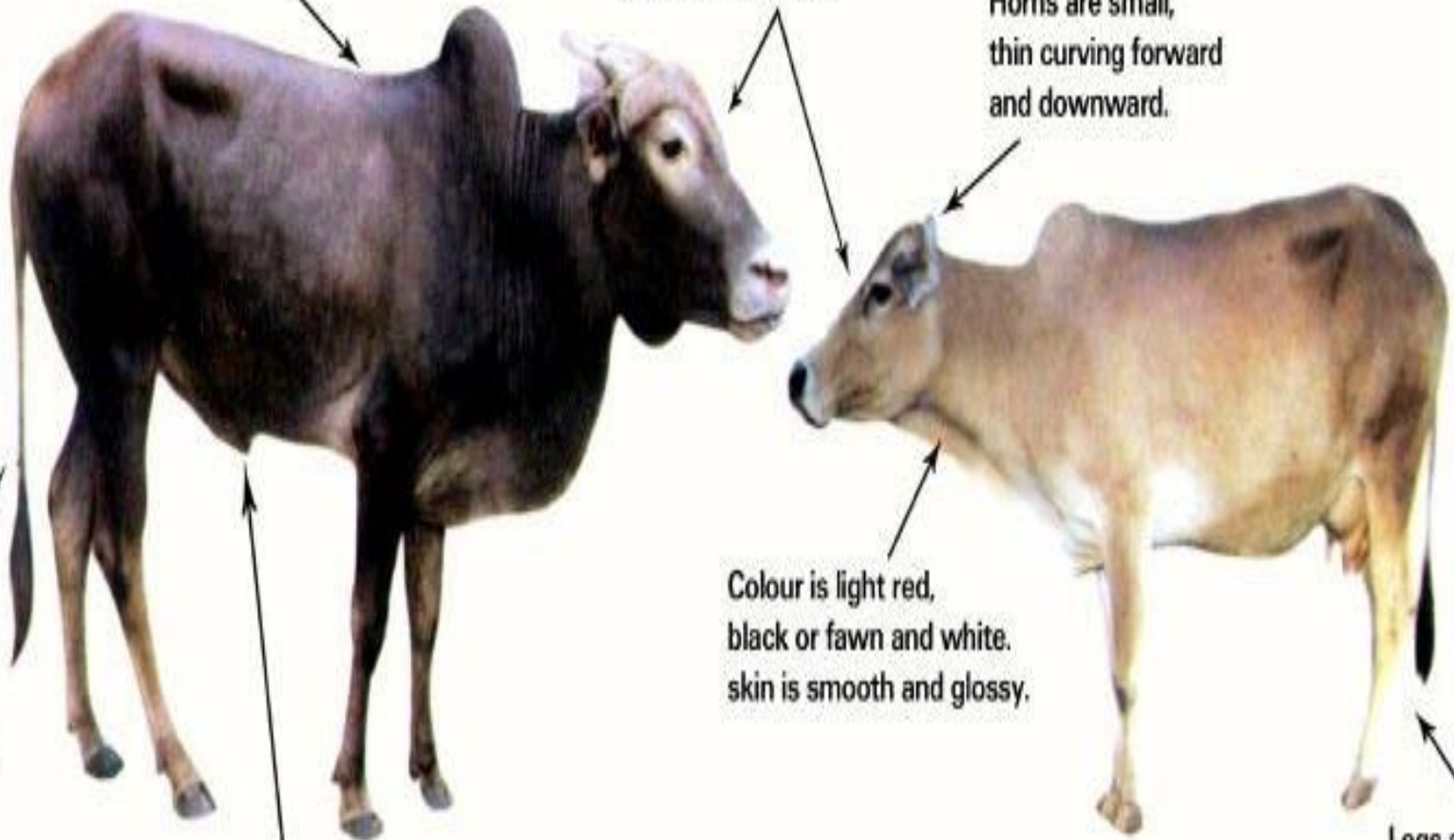
Horns are small, thin curving forward and downward.

Tail is long almost touching the ground.

Colour is light red, black or fawn and white. skin is smooth and glossy.

Sheath is small and tucked up with the body.

Legs are short.



Other Drought Purpose breeds

- Nagauri (First type of drought cattle) : Rajasthan
(Nagore)
- Bachaur : Bihar
- Kherigarh : (Lakhimpur Khiri)
- Punganur : AP
- Umblechery : TN
- Red Kandhari :MH
- Ponwar : (Pilibhit, Lakhimpur)
- Siri : Sikkim